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THE NATURE AND SOURCES OF THE LAW. By John Chipman Gray. Second edition by Roland Gray. New York: The Macmillan Co. 1921. Pp. xviii, 348.

In the preface to this second edition of a work well known for its high merit, the editor tells us that Professor Gray projected a republication of it before his death, and had done some work in the execution of his purpose. His aim was to publish it in a form which would reach a larger number of readers. It is not easy for us to conceive of realizing such an aim in any marked degree, especially as the book has long enjoyed a popularity as wide as the "reading public" of such works. Nevertheless, the revision represents a real improvement upon the original edition; not a little material is added to the notes to illustrate statements in the text; and it contains some helpful changes in form, such as rearrangement of text, insertion of marginal titles, addition of explanatory notes for the benefit of the lay reader, etc. These changes and additions make the republication well worth while.

BURKE SHARTEL.

ORGANIZED EFFORTS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION IN THE UNITED STATES. By Gustavus A. Weber. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1919. Pp. xv, 391.

This book, published under the auspices of the Institute for Government Research, in its Studies in Administration, is intended as a reference and guide to the organized agencies which have been established in such large numbers in recent years to convert the traditionally easy-going American administrative system into a governmental machine more suited to twentieth-century conditions. These agencies proved to be so numerous that, in order to keep the work within the limits of a single volume, it seemed necessary to exclude a considerable number of relevant organizations of the type of the civil service reform associations, the Short Ballot Association, and associations seeking to improve methods of judicial administration.

Within the area selected for analysis the various agencies are grouped in three main divisions: the first composed of agencies for research in government; the second, organs of central administrative control; and the third, legislative reference and bill-drafting bureaus. The bulk of the volume is concerned with the first group, in which is to be found a considerable description of the Institute for Government Research, a bibliography of congressional inquiries with special attention to the work of the Cockrell Committee of 1887, the Docking Commission of 1893, the Keep Committee of 1905, and President Taft's Commission on Economy and Efficiency, together with an account of the various state and city efficiency and economy commissions and unofficial agencies such as the bureaus of municipal research.

The second main division of the work includes references to the California State Board of Control, the Wisconsin Board of Public Affairs, the Supervision of Administration in Massachusetts, the Department of Finance